

Eastern Group Psychotherapy Society

2009 Annual Conference

November 20 & 21, 2009

“Integration and Expansion: Leading Groups in a Changing World”

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

We are pleased to provide the “Call for Proposals” for the EGPS Annual Conference at The Riverside Church in New York City, on November 20 & 21, 2009. We hope that many of you will attend, both as presenters and as participants.

This year's theme is, “Integration and Expansion: Leading Groups in a Changing World.” Our lives are lived in groups: family groups, organizational groups, social groups, therapy groups, large groups, medium groups, and small groups. As therapists in today's world, we need to be knowledgeable, flexible, and versatile, if we are to negotiate effectively these various milieus, survive budget shortfalls and cutbacks, and ultimately thrive! Whether you are an individual therapist considering starting groups, a seasoned group therapist with a significant group practice, or a therapist negotiating the group dynamics of an organization or institution, you need to be current in contemporary group theory and practice, and well-versed in the multitude of techniques that effective group therapists employ.

This year's Conference seeks to address how therapists of all theoretical backgrounds can learn from one another in what we hope will be a vital and enriching interchange. What can we learn from others and integrate into our current practice that will expand and revitalize it? What's new in the field that can enhance the way we currently work with our groups? What's tried and true that we want to re-energize in ourselves, or that we can offer to others?

We are looking for proposals that touch on these topics:

- contemporary thinking in group theory (e.g. self-psychology, constructivism, inter-subjectivity) and its practical applications;
- presentations that address a range of areas and issues where group therapy can be effective:
 - ◆ working with groups in various settings (e.g., schools, businesses, clinics, hospitals, private practice);
 - ◆ working with populations in need (e.g., the recently unemployed, the financially troubled, the medically ill, people dealing with addictions, children and adolescents) in homogeneous and/or heterogeneous groups;
 - ◆ utilizing various group techniques (e.g., psychodrama, systems-centered, modern analysis, movement therapy);
- informing our work with cutting-edge developments (e.g., attachment, neurobiology, trauma, mind-body);

We are looking for presentations that will engage both the intellect and the emotions of the participants.

As we review the proposals that will be submitted, we plan to give preference to those workshops that will reflect the theme of the Conference.

Chera Finnis, Psy.D., CGP and Dan Raviv, Ph.D., CGP
Co-Chairs, Program Sub-Committee, Conference Committee

Please email your complete proposal by **March 16th** to the EGPS Office at egps@optonline.net. *Submissions must include ALL of the following information.*

1. **Cover page with name, degree, address, phone, fax, email and primary affiliation** of each presenter (i.e. private practice, agency affiliation – only one affiliation will be listed.) *All the requested information needs to be provided for each presenter.*
2. **Title of Presentation**
3. **Length of Presentation:** Half-day Workshop or Full day Institute
4. **50 word description** of presentation
5. **Designation of Approach:** Experiential, Didactic, Sharing of Experience –please prioritize
6. **Participant Level of Experience:** i.e. Open to all levels; less than 5 years experience; over ten years of experience, etc.
7. **CV** for each presenter
8. **Three learning objectives** that you expect participants to achieve. Use verbs such as: identify, compare; describe, experience, etc.
9. **Five true/false or multiple choice questions** (with answers) that reflect what you expect the participants to learn
10. **Two statements of why this workshop/institute would be relevant to mental health professionals**

Please check to make sure that ALL the above information is included in your proposal!

- Proposals should reflect the theme of the Conference. Those that do will be given preference in the selection process.
- ALL information requested **must** be submitted in order for your submission to be considered.
- Presenters from the tri-state area **MUST** be members of EGPS in good-standing. (For those not current EGPS members, a Membership Form can be found on the EGPS website at www.egps.org.)
- While you are welcome to submit as many proposals as you like, with very rare exceptions, only one proposal can be accepted for presentation. The Program Committee will choose from among your proposals in order to put together a varied and balanced program.
- All Conference Presenters must register for the Conference. The reduced registration fee includes attending workshops/institutes of your choice, the Conference Faculty Dinner, and a Conference reception.
- Presenters are responsible for providing all audio or visual equipment for their presentation.

Proposal Deadline: March 16, 2009

All proposals must be submitted by email to:
egps@optonline.net

If you have questions or would like consultation with preparing your proposal please contact Program Sub-Committee Co-Chairs Dan Raviv at drraviv@aol.com or Chera Finnis at cfinnis@ptd.net